

ELECTROCHEMICAL CHARACTERIZATION OF NONAQUEOUS SYSTEMS FOR SECONDARY BATTERY APPLICATION

M. Shaw, O. A. Paez, A. H. Remanick

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NARMCO RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
3540 Aero Court

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Technical Management
Space Power Systems Division
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Lewis Research Center, Cleveland, Ohio
Mr. Robert B. King

NARMCO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

OF

WHITTAKER CORPORATION 3540 Aero Court San Diego, California 92123

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ELECTROCHEMICAL CHARACTERIZATION OF NONAQUEOUS SYSTEMS FOR SECONDARY BATTERY APPLICATION

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ABSTRACT

Multisweep cyclic voltammograms have been obtained for an additional 161 systems comprising zinc, cadmium, molybdenum, indium, iron, vanadium, chromium, and manganese electrodes in dimethylformamide, and propylene carbonate solutions of chlorides, perchlorates, and fluorides.

Voltammograms are presented for twenty-two of these systems. Tabular data includes peak current density, sweep index, anodic-to-cathodic peak displacement, coulombic ratio, and discharge capacity. Systems exhibiting neither anodic nor cathodic peaks are listed, as well as those causing instrument overload due to a combination of high current and relatively low conductance.

SUMMARY

The electrochemical characterization of nonaqueous battery systems by nultisweep cyclic voltammetry has been continued. Cyclic voltammograms are now available on over nine hundred systems comprising silver, copper, nickel, cobalt, zinc, cadmium, molybdenum, indium, iron, vanadium, chromium, and manganese in chloride, perchlorate, and fluoride solutions of acetonitrile, butyrolactone, dimethylformamide, and propylene carbonate. Solutes consist primarily of AlCl₃, LiCl, MgCl₂, CaCl₂, Mg(ClO₄)₂, LiClO₄, MgF₂, LiPF₆, KPF₆, Mg(PF₆)₂, Ca(PF₆)₂, LiBF₄, Mg(BF₄)₂, and Ca(BF₄)₂. The voltammograms of twenty-two systems are included in this report.

During this reporting period cyclic voltammetry was initiated on vanadium, chromium, and manganese electrodes. In general, vanadium and chromium electrodes exhibit low or negligible cathodic electrochemical activity due possible to dissolution of the anodic product. Manganese electrodes show anodic and cathodic electrochemical activity with large peak-to-peak voltage separation.

Tables are presented listing system parameters derived from the cyclic voltammograms. These tables include data on peak current densities, sweep index, anodic-to-cathodic peak displacement, coulombic ratio, and discharge capacity. Listed also are those systems exhibiting neither anodic nor cathodic peaks, as well as those systems causing instrument overload.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this program is to conduct a molecular level screening by the cyclic voltammetric method on a large number of electrochemical systems in nonaqueous electrolytes, and to characterize them as to their suitability for use in high energy density secondary batteries.

Since the release and storage of energy in a battery is initiated at the molecular level of the reaction, and therefore dependent on the charge and mass transfer processes, it is essential that screening be conducted at this level, in order to eliminate those systems whose electrode processes are inadequate for secondary battery operation.

I. RESULTS

A. ANALYSIS OF CYCLIC VOLTAMMOGRAMS

Table I lists the conductivities of the solutions used in preparing the electrochemical systems screened during this quarter. The systems screened are shown in Tables II and III, representing a total of 161 systems. To date, cyclic voltammograms have been obtained for over 900 different positive-electrolyte combinations.

Curve analysis was accomplished by dividing all systems into two major groups:

- 1. Systems involving chloride and perchlorate electrolytes.
- 2. Systems involving fluoride electrolytes.

Each main group was then subdivided according to the identity of the working electrode. Each of these subgroups was further broken down according to the identity of the solvent portion of the solution. The cyclic voltammograms are then discussed in terms of the total solution. This classification facilitates data analysis, and has permitted a more significant correlation among the electrochemical systems.

Except in those cases where the metal is converted to a cathodic material prior to assembly in the measuring cell, the working electrode is the base metal itself. During the voltage sweep, the metal is oxidized to some anodic product which serves as the cathode subsequently reduced during the cathodic portion of the sweep. Each sweep cycle thus corresponds to a charge-discharge cycle. In the absence of complicating factors, it is assumed that chloride cathodes would be formed in chloride electrolytes, and fluoride cathodes in fluoride electrolytes.

Each cyclic voltammogram is identified by a CV number and labelled according to the electrochemical system, sweep rate, temperature, and zero reference representing the open circuit voltage (ocv) of the working electrode with respect to the indicated reference electrode. The current axis is in units of ma/cm², each unit being of variable scale depending on the X-Y recorder sensitivity setting. A maximum sensitivity of 0.1 ma/cm²/cm division has been established to avoid exaggerating the current background of poor systems. The sweep is always in a clockwise direction, the potential becoming more positive to the right. Positive currents represent anodic (charge) reactions, and negative currents represent cathodic (discharge) reactions. The voltage axis units are relative to the ocv so that voltage units are in terms of electrode polarization.

For comparative purposes, current density magnitude is classified according to very high (more than 300 ma/cm²), high (100-300 ma/cm²), medium high (50-100 ma/cm²), medium low (10-50 ma/cm²), low (1-10 ma/cm²), and very low (less than 1 ma/cm²).

Analysis is based on the cyclic voltammograms obtained at the lowest sweep rate, 40 mv/sec, except where additional information is required from the higher sweep rate curves to aid in the analysis.

TABLE I ELECTROLYTE CONDUCTIVITY *

Electrolyte	Molality m	Conductivity ohm - 1 cm - 1
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Dimethylformamide-KPF ₆	0.75	2.1×10^{-2}
Dimethylformamide-Mg(ClO ₄) ₂	0.75	1.9×10^{-2}
Dimethylformamide-LiClO ₄	0.5	1.8×10^{-2}
Dimethylformamide-LiPF ₆	0.5	9.9×10^{-3}
Dimethylformamide-AlCl ₃ + LiCl	(1)	7.8×10^{-3}
Dimethylformamide-LiCl	0.5	7.7×10^{-3}
Dimethylformamide-LiBF ₄	0.5	7.3×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-KPF	1.0	7.0×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-LiPF	0.5	5.8×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-LiClO ₄	1.0	5.8×10^{-3}
Dimethylformamide-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	<0.5 (s)	5.8×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-LiClO ₄ + AlCl	0.5 (2)	5.6×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-AlCl ₃ + LiCl	(3)	5.3×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-CaCl ₂	<0.5 (s)	5.3×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-LiBF ₄	0.5	2.9×10^{-3}
Dimethylformamide-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	<0.5 (s)	2.8×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	<0.5 (s)	2.8×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	<0.25 (s)	2.8×10^{-3}

In order of decreasing conductivity

⁽s)

⁽¹⁾

⁽²⁾

^{0.5} m LiCl, saturated at less than 0.25 m AlCl 3 Concentration with respect to each salt 0.5 m AlCl 3, saturated at less than 0.10 m LiCl (3)

TABLE I (Cont'd.) *

Electrolyte	Molality m	Conductivity ohm - 1 cm - 1
		2
Dimethylformamide-Mg(BF $_4$) $_2$	<0.5 (s)	2.4×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	<0.25 (s)	2.4×10^{-3}
Dimethylformamide-PF ₅	0.25	2.2×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-MgCl ₂	<0.25	2.0×10^{-3}
Dimethylformamide-Ca(BF ₄) ₂	<0.5 (s)	1.9×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-LiCl + LiClO ₄	(4)	1.3×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-PF5	0.5	1.3×10^{-3}
Propylene carbonate-Ca(BF ₄) ₂	<0.25 (s)	8.2×10^{-4}
Propylene carbonate-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	<0.25 (s)	7.3×10^{-4}
Dimethylformamide-BF 3	0.5	7.0×10^{-4}
Propylene carbonate-CaCl ₂	<0.10 (s)	6.9×10^{-4}

In order of decreasing conductivity ${\bf r}$

⁽s)

Saturated 0.05 m in LiClO₄, saturated with LiCl (4)

TABLE II

ELECTROCHEMICAL SYSTEMS SCREENED CHLORIDE AND PERCHLORATE ELECTROLYTES

Solvent	Dimethylformamide	Propylene carbonate
LiCl	V, Cr, Mn	
LiClO ₄	V, Cr, Mn	V, Cr, Mn
LiCl + LiClO ₄		Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V
LiClO ₄ + AlCl ₃		Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V
MgCl ₂		Mo, In, Fe
Mg(ClO ₄) ₂	V, Cr, Mn	
CaCl ₂	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V
AlCl ₃ + LiCl	In, V, Cr, Mn	Mo, In, Fe, V, Cr, Mn

TABLE III

ELECTROCHEMICAL SYSTEMS SCREENED FLUORIDE ELECTROLYTES

Solvent	Dimethylformamide	Propylene carbonate
LiPF ₆	Mo, In, Fe, V, Cr, Mn	Mo, In, Fe, V
KPF ₆	V, Cr, Mn	V, Cr, Mn
Mg(PF ₆) ₂	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V
Ca(PF ₆) ₂	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V, Cr, Mn	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V, Cr, Mn
PF ₅	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V, Cr, Mn	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V, Cr, Mn
LiBF ₄	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V, Cr, Mn	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V
Mg(BF ₄) ₂	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V, Cr, Mn	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V
Ca(BF ₄) ₂	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V, Cr, Mn	Zn, Cd, Mo, In, Fe, V, Cr, Mn
BF ₃	Zn, Cd, Mo, In Fe, V, Cr, Mn	

1. Systems Involving Chloride and Perchlorate Electrolytes

a. Zinc Electrode

(1) <u>Dimethylformamide solution</u>

Zinc in CaCl₂ solution results in voltage overload on the anodic sweep. The overload results from the high current and low conductivity of this system.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

The cyclic voltammogram for zinc in LiCl + LiClO₄ solution shows low anodic and cathodic currents, but no well-defined peaks. Excessive concentration polarization is indicated.

The cyclic voltammogram for zinc in LiClO₄ + AlCl₃ solution shows a single anodic peak and no cathodic peak within the 2 volt scan. Expansion of the sweep range shows a cathodic peak at more negative potentials. Large peak-to-peak voltage separations have occurred for zinc with LiClO₄ alone in propylene carbonate (Ref. 1, Fig. 16), similar to that observed for this system. Zinc in CaCl₂ solution exhibits voltage overload for both anodic and cathodic processes at very low current densities, probably due to low solution conductivity.

b. Cadmium Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solution

The cyclic voltammogram for cadmium in CaCl₂ solution is shown in Figure 1 (CV-2963). The curve shows multiple anodic peaks and a single cathodic peak. The cathodic peak occurs 100 mv more positive than the first anodic peak. Similar results were obtained earlier in LiCl solution.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

Cadmium in LiCl + LiClO $_4$ solution shows only slight electrochemical activity, with no peak formation, similar to that observed earlier for zinc in this electrolyte.

The curve for cadmium in LiClO₄ + AlCl₃ solution is shown in Figure 2 (CV-3236). The curve shows a sharp anodic peak and two smaller cathodic peaks. Current densities are in the medium range. At faster scan rates only a single anodic and cathodic peak are observed. Further study would be required to interpret these results. The results in CaCl₂ solution are similar to those for the zinc electrode.

c. Molybdenum Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solution

Molybdenum is essentially inactive in $CaCl_2$ solution, as was observed earlier in LiCl solution.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

The CV curve for molybdenum in LiClO₄ + AlCl₃ solution shows a single broad anodic peak of medium high current density, and no cathodic activity. In LiCl + LiClO₄ solution, the curve for molybdenum shows low anodic activity and no cathodic activity. Molybdenum in LiCl + AlCl₃ solution results in voltage overload with high anodic and no cathodic current. In MgCl₂ and CaCl₂ solutions, anodic voltage overload results and no cathodic activity is indicated.

d. Indium Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solutions

The cyclic voltammogram for indium in LiC1 + AlC1₃ solution is shown in Figure 3 (CV-3392). A complex anodic reaction is indicated by the multipeak positive current. Poor charge-discharge efficiency is predicted based on the low coulombic ratio (cathodic-to-anodic peak areas). Comparison of current peak height ratios at faster sweep rates indicates a soluble anodic product.

Anodic voltage overload results for indium in CaCl₂ solution.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

The cyclic voltammogram for indium in LiCl + LiClO₄ solution shows a low, broad anodic peak in the low current density range, and virtually no cathodic current.

Indium in LiClO₄ + AlCl₃ solution shows a sharp anodic peak in the medium high current density range, and broad multiple cathodic peaks. A similar curve for indium in LiCl + AlCl₃ solution is shown in Figure 4 (CV-3382).

The curve for indium in MgCl₂ solution is shown in Figure 5 (CV-2971) indicating a single anodic, and a double cathodic peak both in the high current density range. Indium in CaCl₂ solution shows voltage overload for both the anodic and cathodic sweeps.

e. Iron Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solution

Iron electrodes in CaCl₂ solution result in anodic voltage overload.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

Iron shows negligible activity in LiCl + LiClO₄ solution. In the case of MgCl₂ solution, iron shows a well formed anodic peak in the medium low range, followed by a lower broad peak. No cathodic reaction is evident, however. Very low anodic and cathodic activity occurs for iron in CaCl₂ solution, and no peaks are observed.

Iron electrodes in LiCl + AlCl₃ solution exhibit complex anodic peaks in the medium high current density range, with low cathodic activity. Similar complex anodic peaks occur for iron in LiClO₄ + AlCl₃ solution. Cathodic activity is indicated at the extreme negative end of the cathodic scan resulting in more than 1 volt peak-to-peak separation.

f. Vanadium Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solutions

Vanadium electrodes indicate very high anodic activity in LiCl solution causing anodic current overload of the instrumentation. The solution turns a dark red color indicating anodic dissolution of the electrode. Cathodic current is nil. Vanadium in CaCl₂ solution results in anodic voltage overload. A red discoloration of the solution was noted, as well as the formation of a black reaction product on the working electrode. Anodic voltage overload results for vanadium in LiClO₄ and LiCl + AlCl₃ solutions. Again, cathodic current is negligible. The sweep curve for vanadium in Mg(ClO₄)₂ solution shows a sharp, very high current density anodic peak and virtually no cathodic activity. This is shown in Figure 6 (CV-3444).

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

No electrochemical activity is observed for vanadium in LiCl + LiClO₄ solution. The curve for vanadium in LiClO₄ solution shows a single sharp anodic high current density peak and only low cathodic activity. Vanadium in LiClO₄ + AlCl₃ solution shows a single, sharp anodic peak in the high current density range and relatively no cathodic activity. In LiCl + AlCl₃ solution, vanadium electrodes exhibit anodic voltage overload due to high current. Red discoloration of the solution, with negligible cathodic reaction, indicates excessive anodic dissolution. Vanadium in CaCl₂ solution shows very low anodic and no cathodic activity.

g. Chromium Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solutions

The curve for chromium in Mg(ClO₄)₂ solution is shown in Figure 7 (CV-3449). A single anodic peak of high current density with virtually no reduction current is evident. Chromium electrodes in LiClO₄, LiCl, and LiCl + AlCl₃ solutions result in anodic voltage overload with no cathodic activity.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

Chromium in LiC1 + A1C1₃ solution show multipeak anodic activity in the medium high range and low cathodic activity. Low anodic and very low cathodic activity is indicated in LiC1O₄ solution.

h. Manganese Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solutions

Manganese electrodes in chloride and perchlorate solutions show a large voltage spread between anodic and cathodic peaks indicating high activation polarization. In the case of LiCl + AlCl₃ solution, the curves show a broad, high anodic peak, with low cathodic activity at the negative extreme of the voltage range. Very low anodic and cathodic activity at the scan limits is observed also for Mg(ClO₄)₂. Curves for LiClO₄ solution show a single, very high anodic peak at the positive extreme, but no cathodic activity within the total scan. The curve for manganese in LiCl solution shows a single, anodic peak and multiple broad cathodic peaks. Peak current densities fall in the low range, and peak-to-peak voltage separation is greater than 0.5 v. The curve is shown in Figure 8 (CV-3315).

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

Manganese in LiCl + AlCl₃ solution shows a medium low, current density anodic peak and no cathodic activity. Low anodic currents and no cathodic activity is indicated in LiClO₄ solution.

2. Systems Involving Fluoride Electrolytes

a. Zinc Electrode

(1) <u>Dimethylformamide solutions</u>

Zinc electrodes in PF₅ solution give voltage overload caused by a combination of very high anodic current and low solution conductivity. Cathodic voltage overload is obtained in Mg(PF₆)₂ solution. The cyclic voltammogram for zinc in Ca(PF₆)₂ solution shows a single broad, high current density anodic peak. The reduction reaction is initiated at the same potential as the oxidation reaction, forming a well-defined cathodic peak. 200 mv negative to this peak, however, erratic peak behavior is obtained, which may be related to the observed continuous dislodging of reaction product from the electrode.

The curve for zinc in LiBF $_4$ solution is shown in Figure 9 (CV-3272). A secondary oxidation process is indicated. The cathodic peak occurring 0.4 v cathodic to the major anodic peak appears clean, although, a second cathodic reaction is indicated at the extreme end of the negative range. Peak current densities fall in the medium high range. Measurements in BF $_3$, Mg(BF $_4$) $_2$, and Ca(BF $_4$) $_2$ solutions result in anodic and cathodic voltage overload with very high cathodic current densities.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

Zinc in PF₅ solution shows a broad, low current density cathodic peak, and a medium low anodic with no tendency towards peaking. The curve for zinc in Mg(PF₆)₂ solution is shown in Figure 10 (CV-3134). The single anodic and cathodic peaks fall in the medium high current density range, and are seen to be broad and highly polarized as evidenced by a peak-to-peak separation greater than 1 volt.

Zinc electrodes in LiBF₄ solution show a sharp anodic peak followed by very erratic non-reproducible cathodic activity. The erratic behavior may be due to sudden changes, such as cracking of the electrode surface layer, exposing

new electroactive surface. A black reaction product forms on the working electrode. Peak current densities are in the medium low range.

Zinc in $Ca(BF_4)_2$ solution shows broad, single anodic and cathodic peaks separated by 0.8 v. Peak current densities are in the high and medium high range respectively. In $Ca(PF_6)_2$ solution, the curve shows a medium low anodic and a medium high cathodic peak. Small random oscillations are exhibited, possibly caused by erratic surface changes. Voltage overload occurs in $Mg(BF_4)_2$ solutions as a result of very high current densities.

b. Cadmium Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solutions

The cyclic voltammogram for cadmium in PF₅ solution shows a broad, poorly defined irreproducible anodic peak of very high current density, and a medium low current density cathodic peak. Anodic-to-cathodic peak voltage separation is greater than 1 volt. Voltage overload results in Mg(PF₆)₂ and Ca(PF₆)₂ solutions, as a result of a combination of very high anodic and cathodic activity and low solution conductivity.

Measurements on cadmium in LiBF $_4$ solutions caused instrumental oscillation and voltage overload near the extremes of the voltage range. These oscillations are no doubt set off by sudden changes in electrode geometry, in combination with high current densities, resulting in impedance mismatch and affecting the response of the potentiostat. A cyclic voltammogram was recorded for this system by setting voltage limits at only ± 0.3 v relative to the o.c.v. The curve is a good example of a high current density reversible system, and is shown in Figure 11 (CV-3273). Cadmium in BF $_3$, Mg(BF $_4$) $_2$, and Ca(BF $_4$) $_2$ solutions result in voltage overload for both anodic and cathodic sweeps.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

Cadmium electrodes in PF₅ solution yield results similar to those observed for zinc in this electrolyte. A medium high cathodic peak is obtained, with

no tendency for anodic peak formation. The curve is shown in Figure 12 (CV-3006). Cadmium in $Mg(PF_6)_2$ solution results in voltage overload.

Voltage overload resulted for cadmium in $Ca(PF_6)_2$, $Mg(BF_4)_2$ and $Ca(BF_4)_2$ solutions. In $Mg(BF_4)_2$ solution, overload results for both anodic and cathodic sweeps. In $Ca(PF_6)_2$ and $Ca(BF_4)_2$ solutions the overload condition is encountered only on the anodic sweep.

Cadmium in LiBF₄ solution exhibits voltage overload caused by system oscillations similar to that described above for the Cd/DMF-LiBF₄ system. Very high anodic and cathodic currents were recorded. Additional measurements are warranted for this system.

c. Molybdenum Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solutions

Curves for molybdenum electrodes in PF₅ solution show two very low but distinct anodic peaks, and no cathodic activity. In LiPF₆ solution, two anodic peaks are again formed, but closer together than in PF₅ solution. Low cathodic activity is indicated in LiPF₆ solution, with two peaks again evident. Charge-to-discharge voltage separation is excessively large however. Voltage overload occurs in both Mg(PF₆)₂ and Ca(PF₆)₂ solutions.

The results for molybdenum electrodes in LiBF₄ solution indicate anodic activity in the medium high current density range, but no cathodic activity. Voltage overload results in BF₃, $Mg(BF_4)_2$ and $Ca(BF_4)_2$ solutions with high currents on the anodic sweep, but with no current on the cathodic sweep.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

Molybdenum shows no activity in PF₅ solution, within the normal scanning range (+1.0 to -1.0v), but in the range 0 to +2.0 v, anodic voltage overload occurs. A medium high anodic peak is obtained in LiPF₆ solution, and the cathodic peak is of low current density and separated by more than 1.0 v

from the anodic reaction. Anodic voltage overload results for molybdenum in $\mathrm{Mg(PF}_6)_2$ solution. Molybdenum in LiBF_4 solution shows results similar to those observed in dimethylformamide solution. Medium high anodic current is obtained with no tendency towards peak formation. A low cathodic current occurs at -1.0 v. Similar results with lower current densities are observed for molybdenum in $\mathrm{Ca(BF}_4)_2$, but with lower current densities.

Voltage overload caused by very high anodic currents results for molybdenum in Mg(BF₄)₂ and Ca(PF₆)₂ solutions. The cathodic current for both of these systems is nil.

d. <u>Indium Electrode</u>

(1) Dimethylformamide solutions

The cyclic voltammogram for indium in PF₅ solution shows a high anodic current with no tendency for peak formation. No reduction reaction is evident. The solution becomes dark brown during cycling. Indium in LiPF₆ solution shows very high anodic activity as indicated in Figure 13 (CV-3036). The cathodic current is in the very low range, and is limited by the anodic dissolution of the indium working electrode as evidenced by darkening of the solution and plating out of a metal (presumably indium) on the counterelectrode. Sweep rate behavior also indicates a soluble cathode. Voltage overload results in Mg(PF₆)₂ and Ca(PF₆)₂ solutions, again due to very high anodic activity and low solution conductance.

The curve for indium in LiBF₄ solution shows very high anodic and medium low cathodic activity. As seen in Figure 14 (CV-3282) the anodic peak area is much larger than the cathodic peak area (by roughly a factor of a hundred) indicating poor charge-discharge efficiency. Voltage overload results for both anodic and cathodic sweeps due to very high currents and low conductivity in BF₃, $Mg(BF_4)_2$, and $Ca(BF_4)_2$ solutions.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

The electrochemical behavior of indium electrodes in PF₅ solution is similar to that observed for PF₅ in dimethylformamide. Indium in LiPF₆ solution shows high anodic and medium high cathodic activity, accompanied by excessive dissolution of the cathodic material. Metal deposition, presumably indium, is observed on the counterelectrode. Anodic voltage overload results for indium electrodes in Mg(PF₆)₂ solution.

The cyclic voltammogram for indium in LiBF₄ solution is shown in Figure 15 (CV-3179). The electrode characteristics indicated in this curve are an improvement over that in Figure 14 (CV-3282) for dimethylformamide solution. Still, the large peak-to-peak voltage separation (0.9v), and low cathodic-to-anodic coulombic ratio, are not favorable from the standpoint of secondary battery operation.

Indium in Ca(PF₆)₂, Ca(BF₄)₂ and Mg(BF₄)₂ all results in voltage overload caused by very high anodic and cathodic currents and low solution conductivity.

e. Iron Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solutions

Iron in PF₅ solution causes voltage overload as a result of high anodic activity and low solution conductance. High anodic and cathodic activity occurs in LiPF₆, Mg(PF₆)₂ and Ca(PF₆)₂ solutions. The broad multiple peaks and large voltage separation between anodic and cathodic reactions in all three systems make them unsatisfactory for secondary battery application.

Iron electrodes in LiBF $_4$ solution show a sharp anodic peak of medium high current density and very low cathodic activity. In $\mathrm{Mg(BF}_4)_2$ and $\mathrm{Ca(BF}_4)_2$ solutions, iron electrodes show sharp anodic peaks of very high current density and low cathodic activity. Voltage separation is greater than 1 volt. The cyclic voltammogram for iron in $\mathrm{Mg(BF}_4)_2$ solution is shown in Figure 16

(CV-3328). Voltage overload results in BF₃ solution on the anodic sweep, with high anodic and cathodic currents.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

The cyclic voltammogram for iron in PF₅ solution indicates low anodic and cathodic activity with no peak formation. The curve for iron in LiPF₆ solution is shown in Figure 17 (CV-3061) and is the best of the iron systems examined to date. Peak currents are in the medium low range, peak-to-peak separation is 0.5 v, and the charge-discharge efficiency is 86%. Iron in Mg(PF₆)₂ solution shows broad, low anodic peak and very low cathodic activity with no peak formation.

The cyclic voltammogram for iron in LiBF₄ solutions is shown in Figure 18 (CV-3189). The curve shows single anodic and cathodic peaks of medium low current densities, and 1.4 v peak-to-peak separation. The large voltage separation indicates high activation polarization. Similar results are obtained for iron in Mg(BF₄)₂, Ca(BF₄)₂ and Ca(PF₆)₂ solutions.

f. Vanadium Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solutions

Vanadium in PF₅ solution results in voltage overload. Sharp anodic peaks in the medium low current density range, with repeat peaks at the same potential on the reverse sweep, occur in LiPF₆, Mg(PF₆)₂, and Ca(PF₆)₂ solutions. In each case, a low cathodic peak is observed, separated by greater than 1 volt from the anodic peak. The curve for LiPF₆ is shown in Figure 19 (CV-3046). The results for vanadium in KPF₆ solution are similar except that no cathodic activity or repeat peaks are observed.

The voltammograms for vanadium electrodes in LiBF₄, $Mg(BF_4)_2$, $Ca(BF_4)_2$, and in BF₃ solutions show low to very low anodic and cathodic activity. In

general, results for vanadium, in fluoride electrolyte, show anodic activity decreasing after the first cycle. Continued cycling yields reproducibility only at low or very low current density levels.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

Vanadium after a few cycles exhibits very low electrochemical activity in PF₅, LiPF₆, KPF₆, or Mg(PF₆)₂ and Ca(PF₆)₂ solutions of propylene carbonate.

In the case of LiBF₄, Mg(BF₄)₂, and Ca(BF₄)₂ solutions, vanadium exhibits low or very low anodic and cathodic activity following the first few cycles. A typical curve obtained after several cycles is shown in Figure 20 (CV-3171).

g. Chromium Electrode

(1) Dimethylformamide solutions

The curve for chromium in LiPF₆ solution shows a single sharp anodic peak of medium low current density range, and no cathodic peak. Cathodic activity of less than 2 ma/cm² is indicated at the extreme negative voltage range. Similar results are obtained for KPF₆ solutions. Chromium electrodes in LiBF₄ and in BF₃ solutions result in anodic voltage overload accompanied by high currents. Cathodic currents are negligible in both cases.

(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

The curve for chromium in KPF $_6$ solution shows low anodic and very low cathodic activity with no current peaks. Similar results occur in $\text{Ca(PF}_6)_2$ solution. Chromium electrodes in PF $_5$ and $\text{Ca(BF}_4)_2$ solutions result in voltage overload with high anodic currents. No reduction reaction is evidenced.

h. Managese Electrode

(1) <u>Dimethylformamide solutions</u>

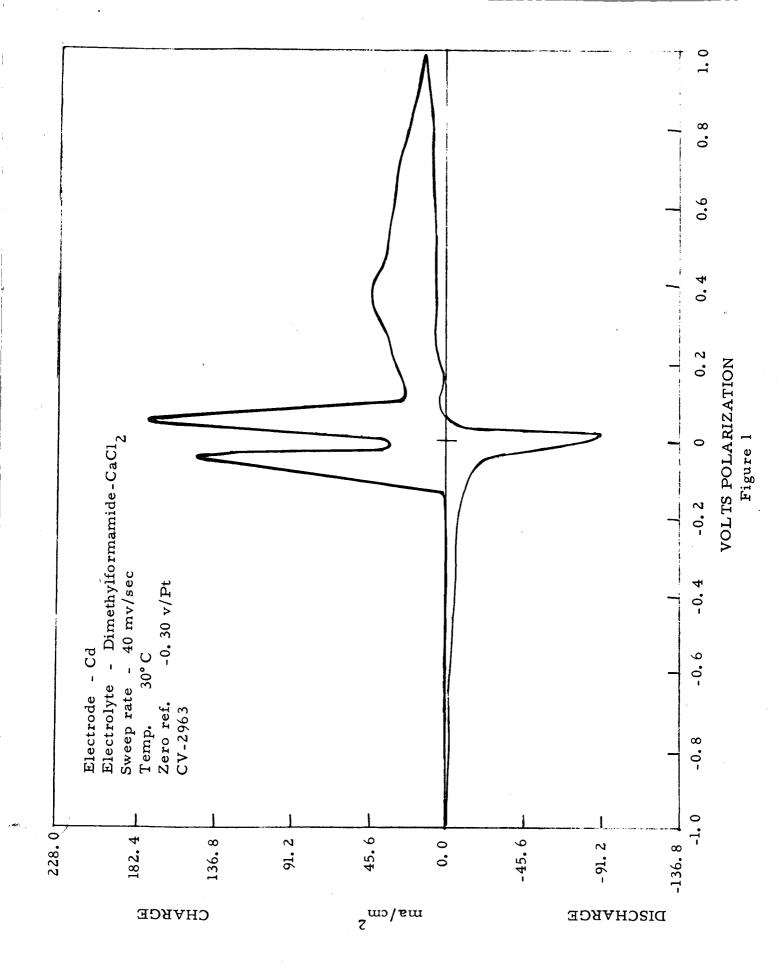
The curve for manganese in LiPF solution shows single anodic and cathodic peaks of high current density. High activation polarization is indicated by

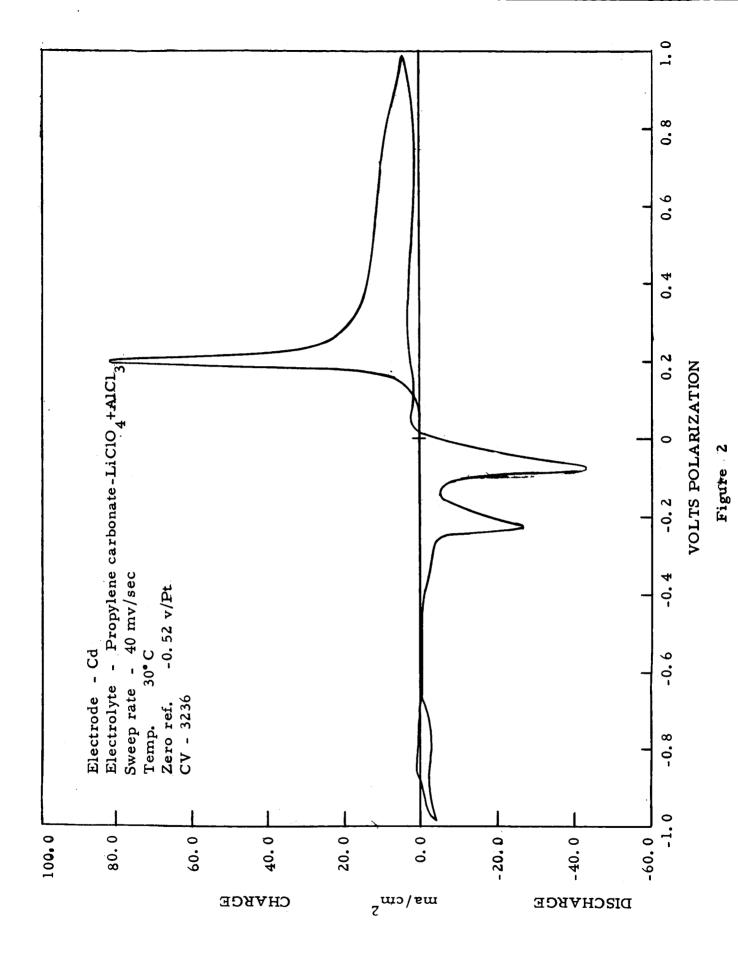
0.9 v peak-to-peak voltage separation as seen in Figure 21 (CV-3303). Plating of a metal on the counterelectrode indicates that some anodic dissolution is occurring. The curve obtained in KPF 6 solution is shown in Figure 22 (CV-3439).

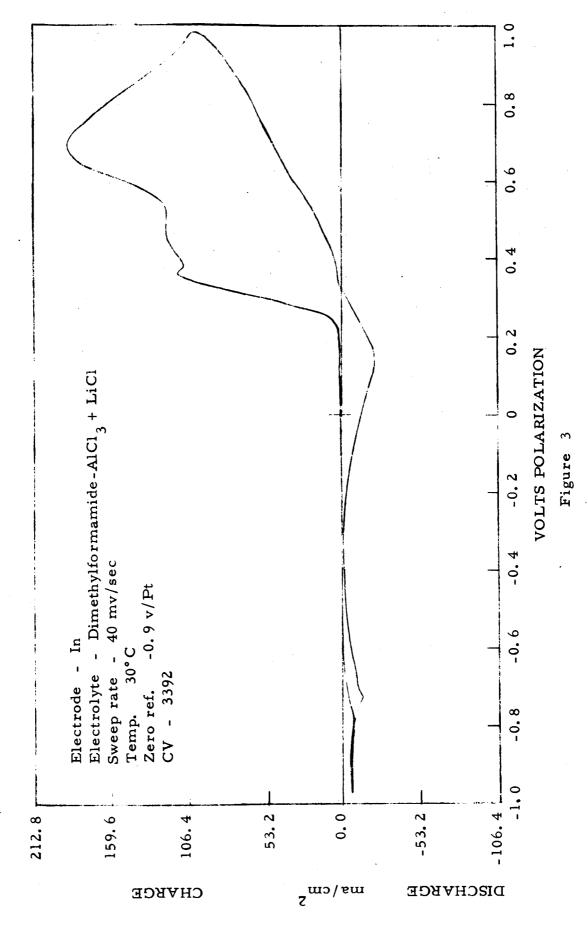
Manganese in LiBF₄ solution shows single anodic and cathodic peaks. The sweep rate dependence of the anodic and cathodic peaks indicates a soluble anodic product. Peak-to-peak voltage separation is 0.7 v. Voltage overload results on both anodic and cathodic sweeps for manganese in BF₃, $Mg(BF_4)_2$, $Ca(BF_4)_2$, and PF₅ solutions.

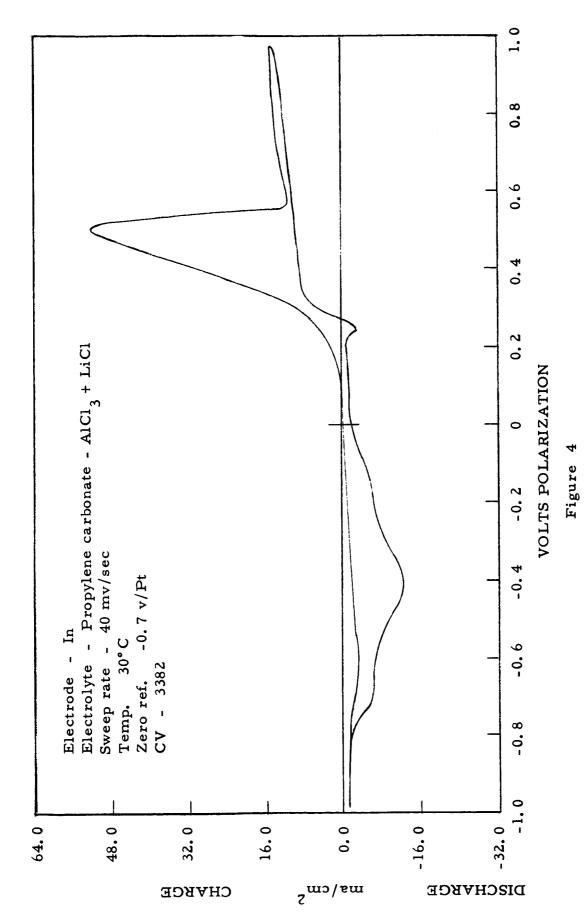
(2) Propylene carbonate solutions

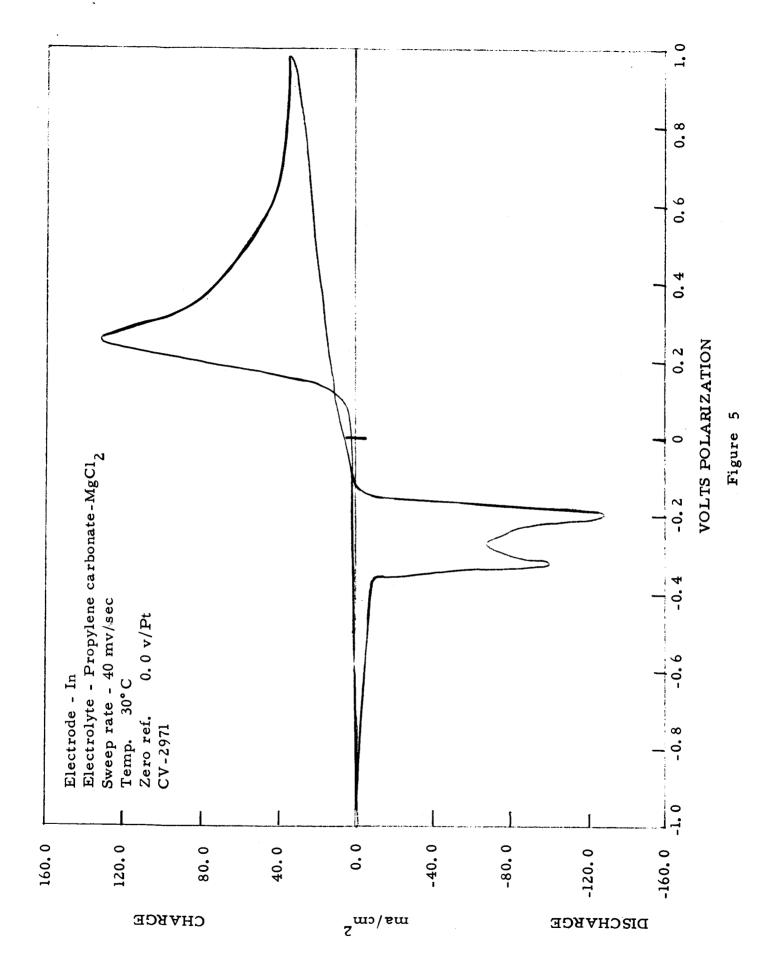
Manganese in KPF₆ and Ca(PF₆)₂ solutions shows low cathodic activity. The anodic current in the case of KPF₆ is in the medium low range, although no peak results. In Ca(PF₆)₂ solution a broad anodic peak in the low current density range is observed.











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Figure 6

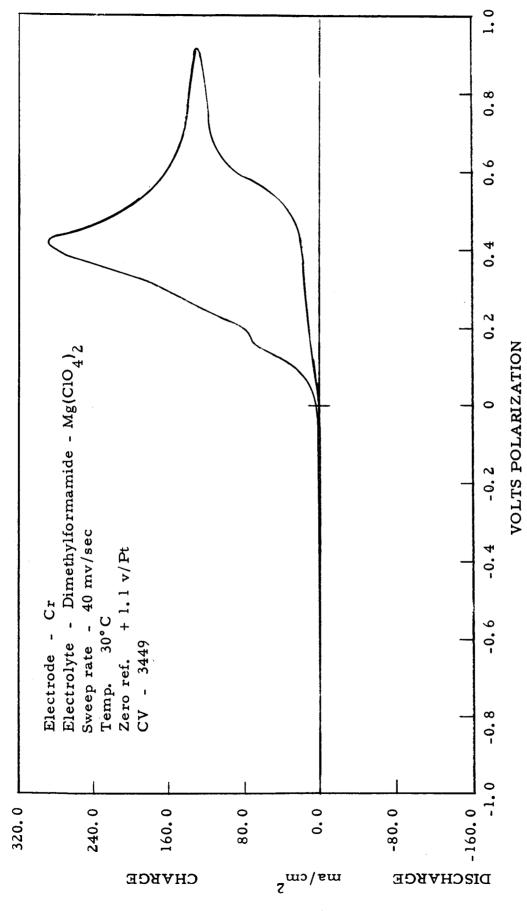
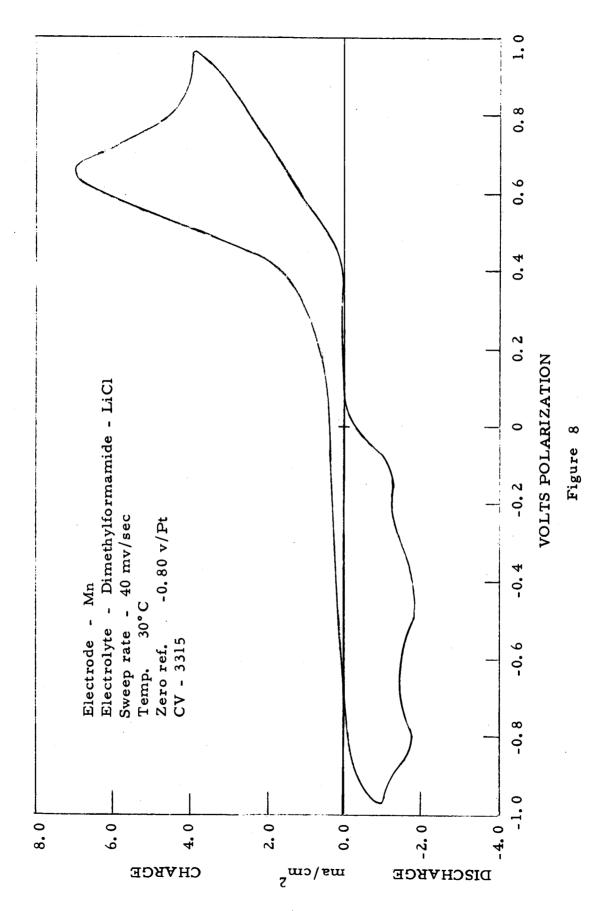
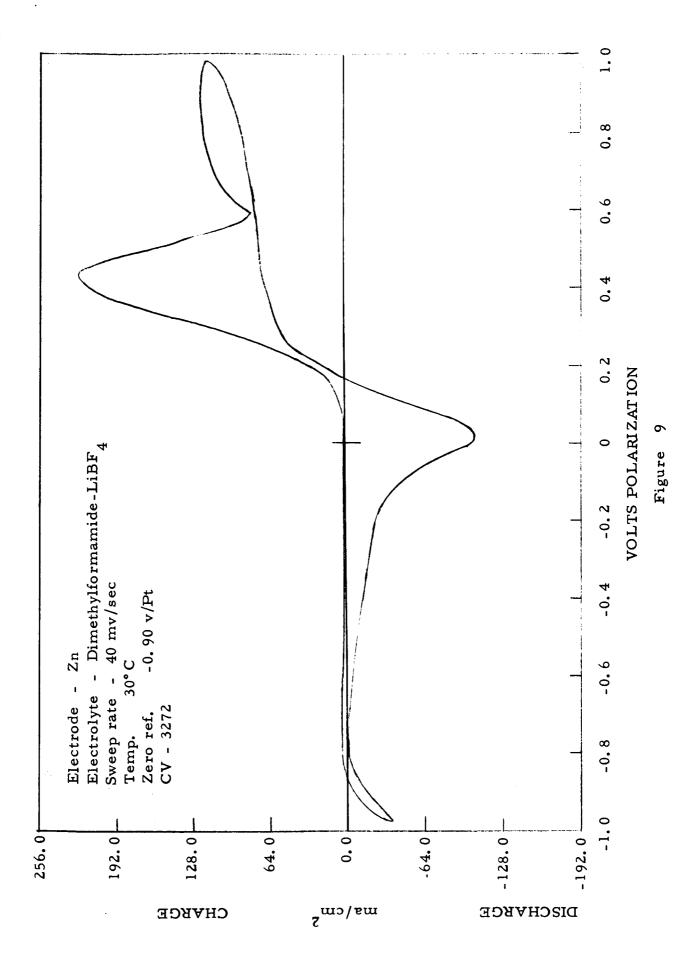


Figure 7



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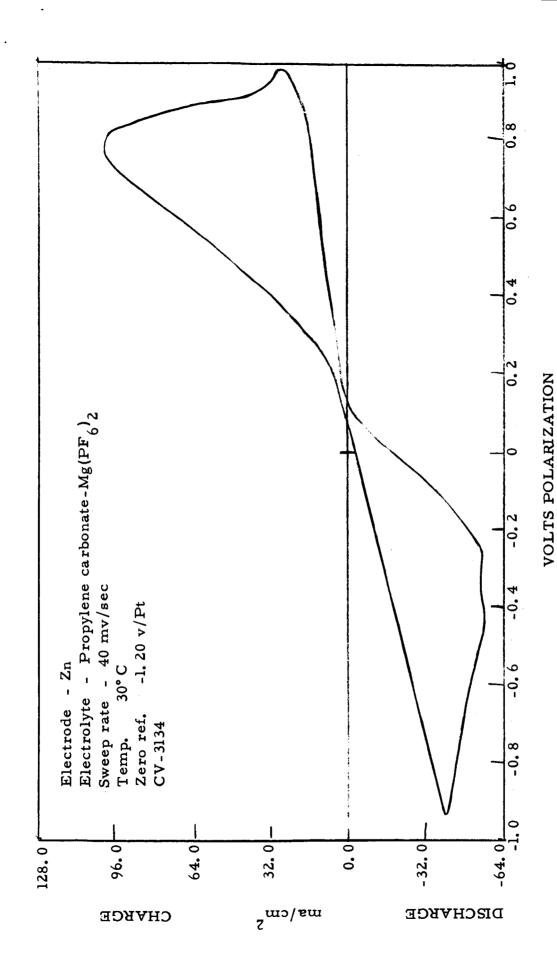
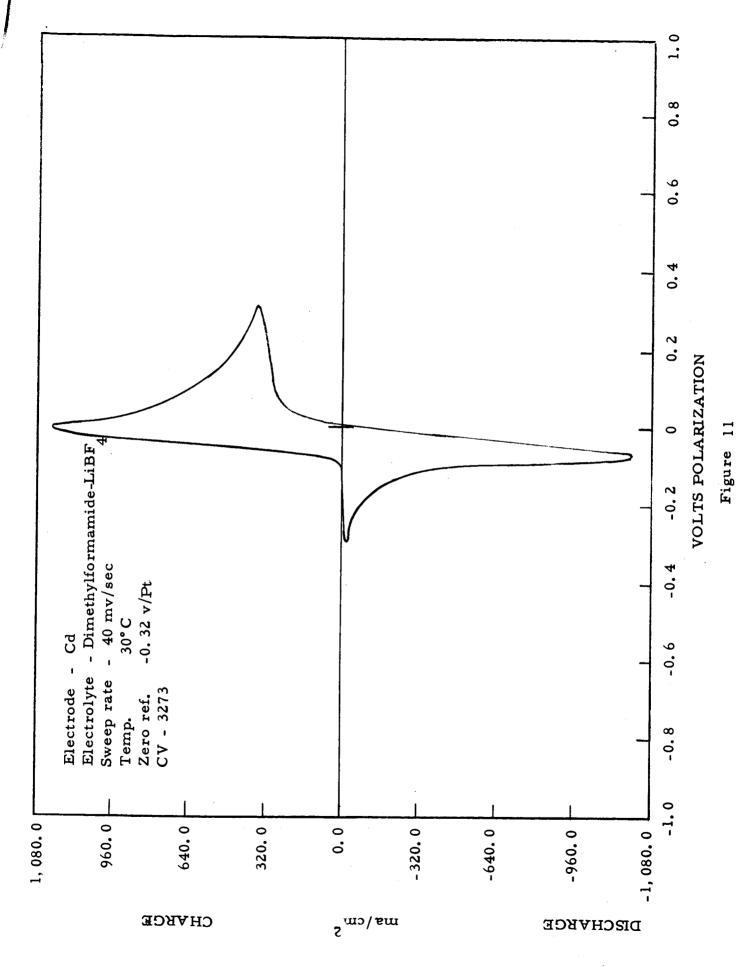
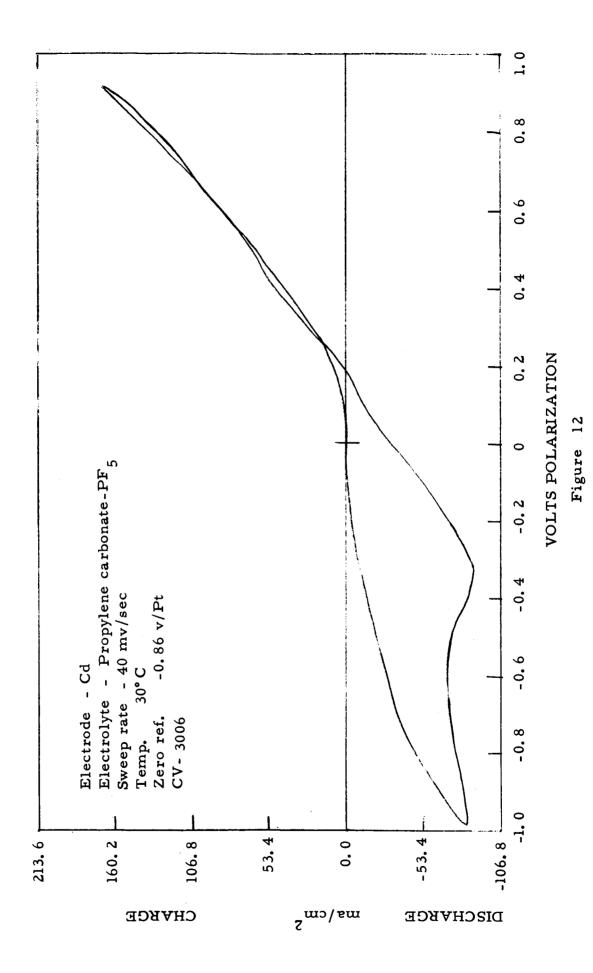


Figure 10

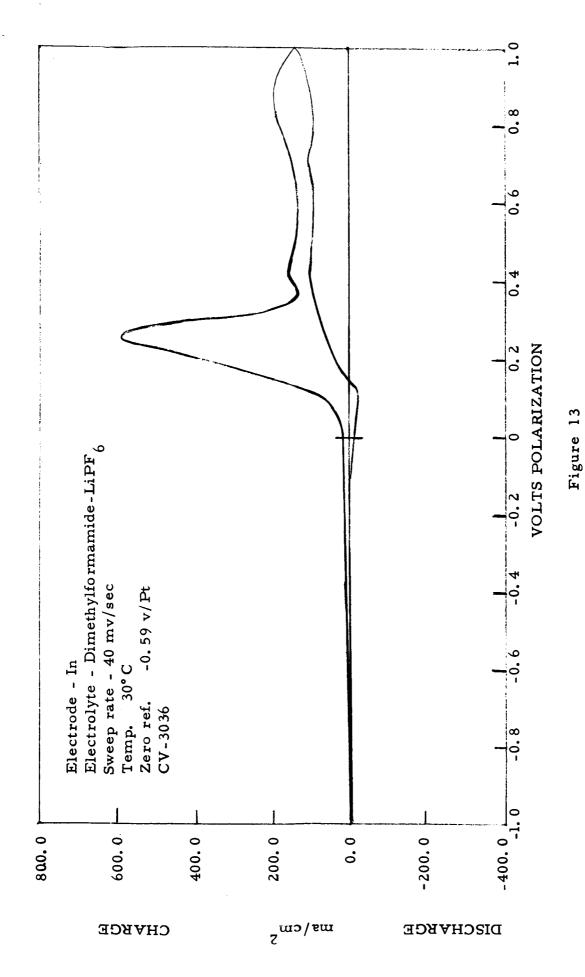
-29-



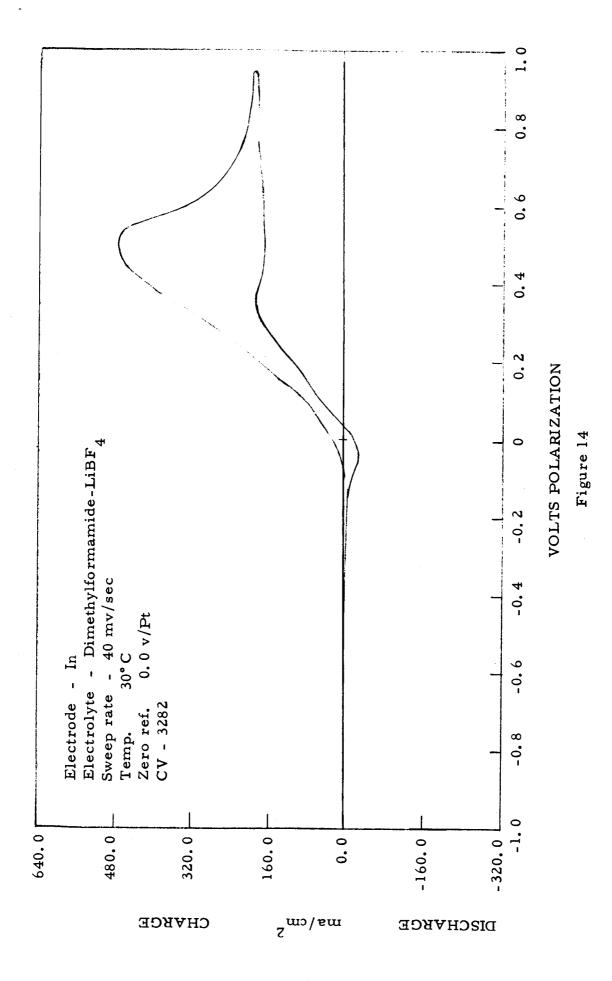
- 30 -

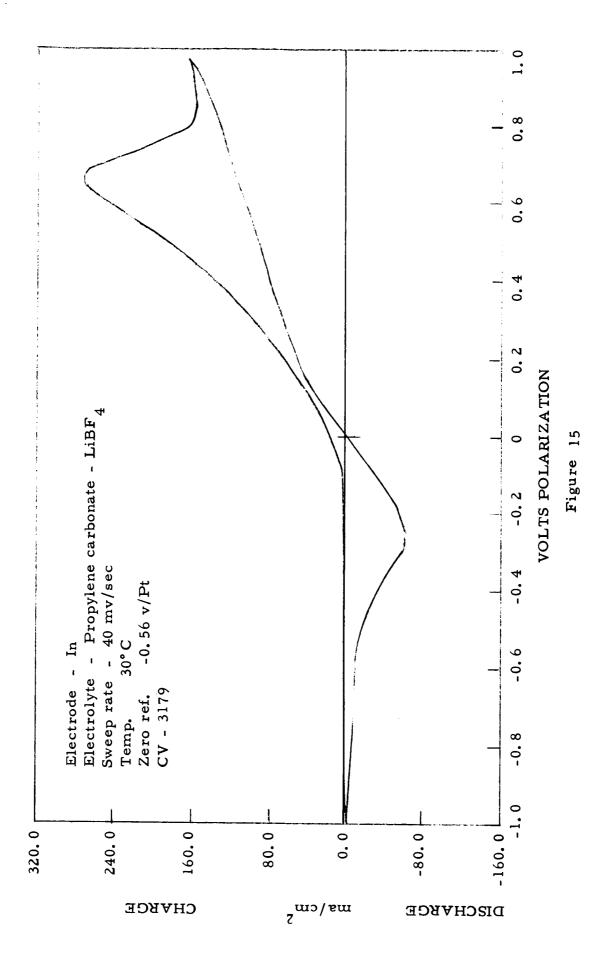


-31-



-32-





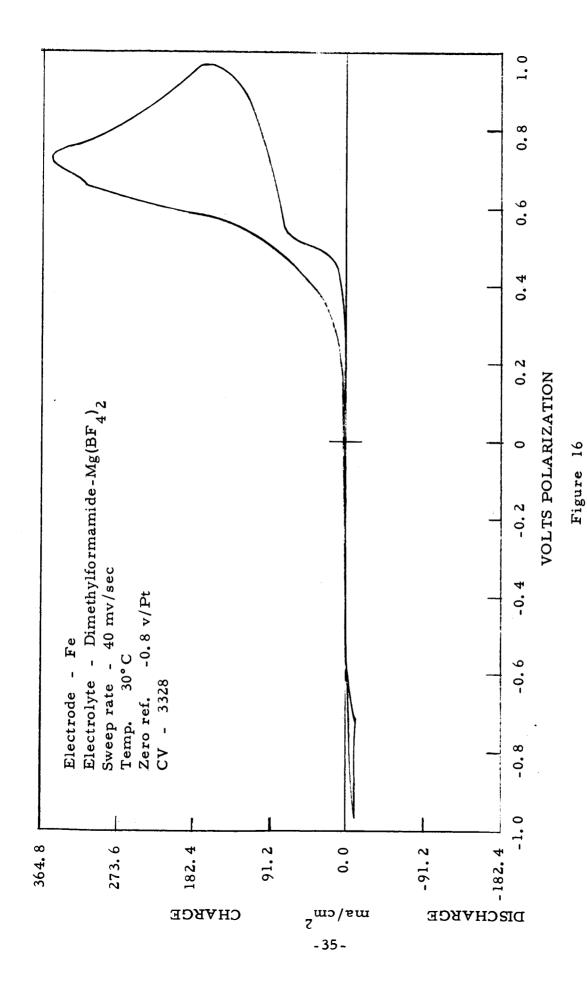
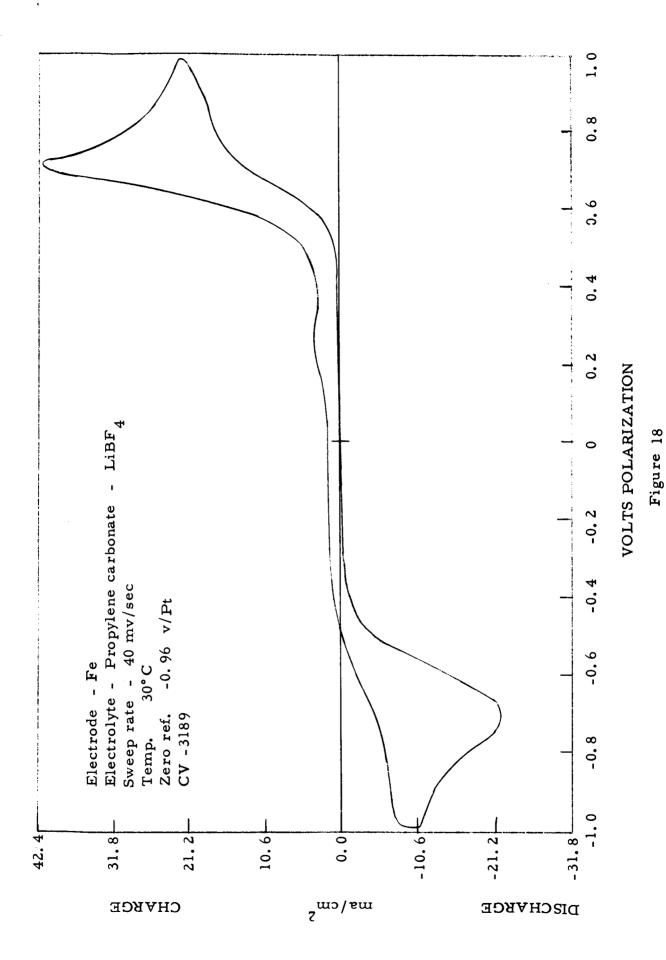


Figure 17

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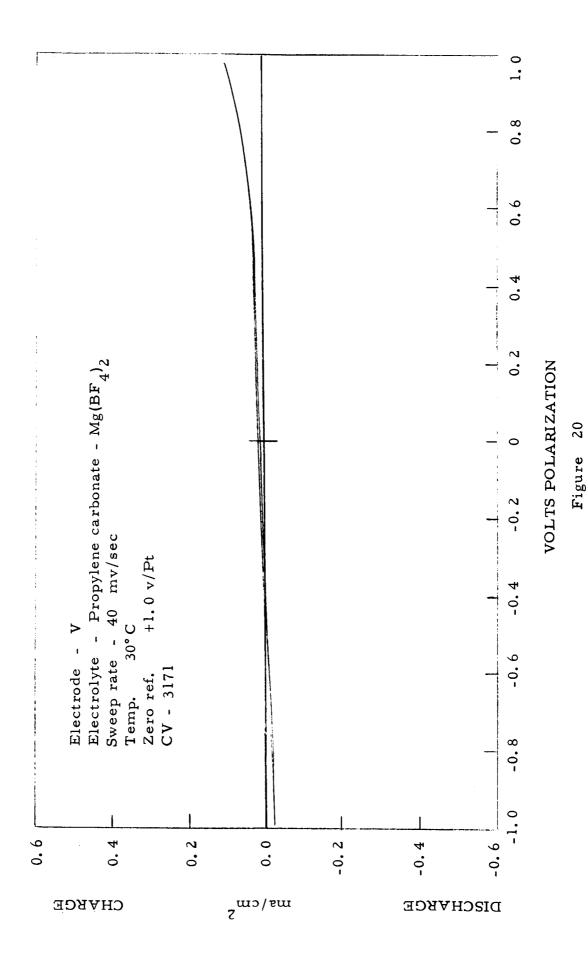


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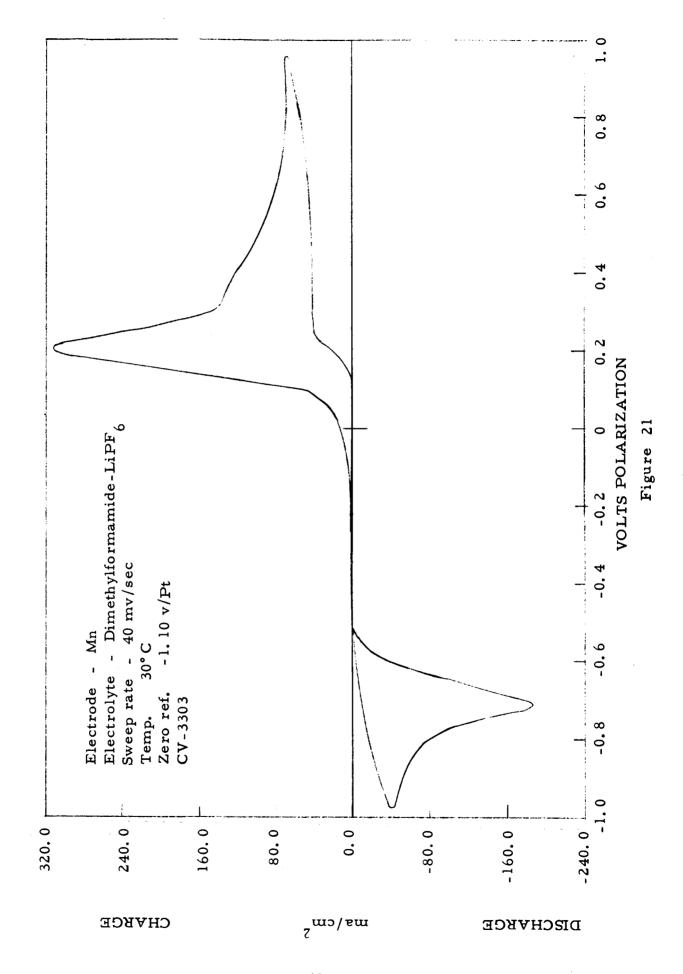
VOLTS POLARIZATION

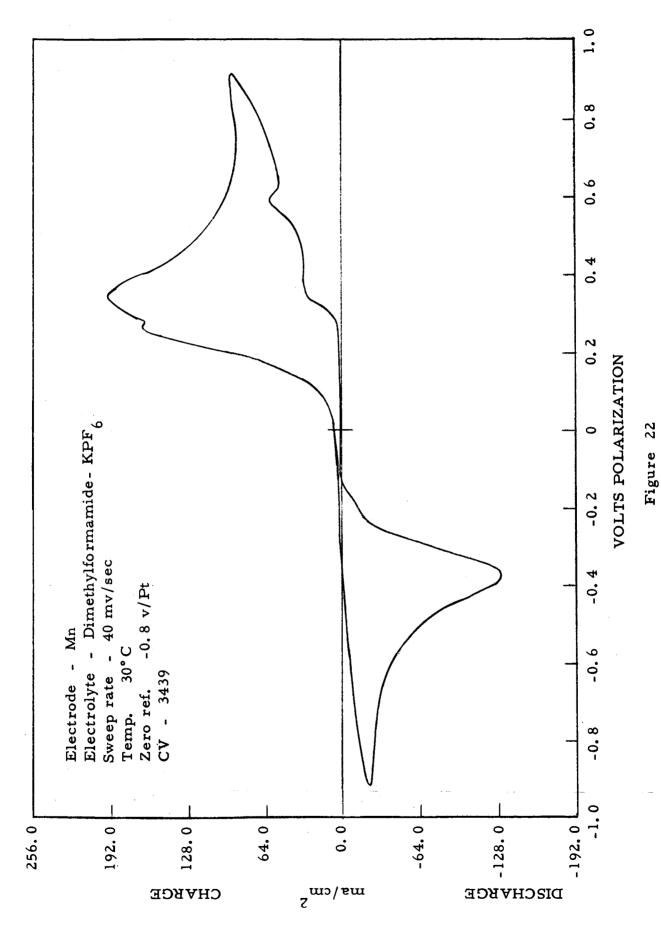
Figure 19

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B. TABLES OF CYCLIC VOLTAMMETRIC DATA

Included in this section are tables listing parameters derived from the cyclic voltammograms. These parameters are as follows:

- 1. Sweep index This is a relative figure of merit taking into account peak height, sweep rate, and discharge capacity. This parameter is described in more detail in an earlier report (Ref. 2, p. 80).
- 2. Peak current density range Relative magnitude of peak currents classified according to page 2.
- 3. ΔV_p Peak-to-peak displacement in volts of charge and discharge reactions giving a measure of overall electrode reversibility, or in more practical terms, a measure of suitability of the electrochemical system for second battery application.
- 4. Coulombic ratio Ratio of cathodic to anodic peak area. Values significantly in excess of unity for the pre-formed electrodes (chlorinated and fluorinated metals) are indicative of the contribution of the original cathodic material to the discharge reaction independent of the material formed by the preceding charge sweep.
- 5. Discharge capacity Measure of discharge utilization per unit area of electrode surface, when compared with the coulombic ratio except for values of the latter greater than unity.

Also included are tables listing the systems causing voltage and current overload of the instrumentation preventing recordable voltammograms as well as those systems failing to exhibit either anodic or cathodic peaks. In cases of solutions having varying molality, the concentrations are included with the designated system. The concentration of all solutions are listed in Table I.

TABLE IV

SYSTEMS CAUSING VOLTAGE OVERLOAD OF INSTRUMENTATION CHLORIDE AND PERCHLORATE ELECTROLYTES

System	CV	Max. Anod. C. D. ma/cm ²	Max. Cath. C.D. ma/cm ²
Zn/DMF-CaCl ₂	2958	400	100
Zn/PC-CaCl ₂	3195	nil	nil
Cd/PC-CaCl ₂	31 96	nil	nil
Mo/PC-MgCl ₂	2970	80	20
Mo/PC-CaCl ₂	3198	40	nil
$Mo/PC-AlCl_3 + LiCl$	3366	2400	nil
In/DMF-CaCl ₂	2978	200	nil
In/PC-CaCl ₂	3197	nil	nil
Fe/DMF-CaCl ₂	2969	200	20
V/DMF-LiClO ₄	3316	2400	nil
V/DMF-CaCl ₂	2977	1600	nil
V/DMF-AlCl ₃ + LiCl	3393	2400	nil
V/PC-AlCl ₃ + LiCl	3372	2400	nil
Cr/DMF-LiCl	3310	2400	nil
Cr/DMF-LiClO ₄	3317	2800	nil
Cr/DMF-AlCl ₃ + LiCl	3394	2800	nil
Mn/PC-LiClO ₄	3414	400	4

DMF - Dimethylformamide

TABLE V

SYSTEMS CAUSING VOLTAGE OVERLOAD

OF INSTRUMENTATION

FLUORIDE ELECTROLYTES

System	CV	Max. Anod. C. D. ma/cm ²	Max. Cath. C. D. ma/cm ²
$Zn/DMF-Mg(PF_6)_2$	3089	400	600
Zn/DMF-PF ₅	2985	1600	600
$Z_n/DMF-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3323	1200	800
$Z_n/DMF-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3353	1600	1600
Zn/DMF-BF ₃	3265	1200	450
$Z_n/PC-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3162	1200	800
Cd/DMF-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	3090	1600	1200
Cd/DMF-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3078	1600	800
Cd/DMF-Mg(BF ₄) ₂	3324	1200	1200
$Cd/DMF-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3354	1600	1600
Cd/DMF-BF ₃	3264	1200	450
Cd/PC-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	31 35	1200	1200
Cd/PC-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3153	400	300
Cd/PC-LiBF ₄	3174	400	1200
$Cd/PC-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3163	1200	800
Cd/PC-Ca(BF ₄) ₂	3210	400	200
$Mo/DMF-Mg(PF_6)_2$	3091	1600	nil
Mo/DMF-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3079	1200	100

TABLE V (Cont'd.)

System	<u>CV</u>	Max. Anod. C.D.	Max. Cath. C. D.
		ma/cm ²	ma/cm ²
$Mo/DMF-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3325	1600	nil
$Mo/DMF-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3355	1600	nil
Mo/DMF-BF ₃	3263	1200	nil
$Mo/PC-Mg(PF_6)_2$	3136	800	nil
Mo/PC-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3154	1200	nil
$Mo/PC-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3164	1200	nil
In/DMF-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	3092	1600	400
In/DMF-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3080	1600	800
$In/DMF-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3326	1200	1200
$In/DMF-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3356	1600	1600
In/DMF-BF ₃	3262	1200	800
In/PC-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	3142	800	480
In/PC-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3155	1200	800
$In/PC-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3165	1200	1200
In/PC-Ca(BF ₄) ₂	3216	400	400
Fe/DMF-PF5	2991	800	nil
Fe/DMF-BF3	3261	1200	200
V/DMF-PF ₅	2984	200	200

TABLE V (Cont'd.)

System	CV	Max. Anod. C.D. ma/cm ²	Max. Cath. C.D. ma/cm ²
Cr/DMF-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3336	800	nil
Cr/DMF-PF ₅	3351	800	nil
Cr/DMF-LiBF ₄	3289	1600	nil
$Cr/DMF-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3334	1600	nil
$Cr/DMF-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3364	1200	nil
Cr/DMF-BF ₃	3266	1200	2
Cr/PC-PF ₅	3349	800	nil
$Cr/PC-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3348	1200	nil
$Mn/DMF-Ca(PF_6)_2$	3088	1600	400
Mn/DMF-PF ₅	3352	800	800
$Mn/DMF-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3335	1600	1600
$Mn/DMF-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3365	1200	1200
Mn/DMF-BF ₃	3267	1200	400
Mn/PC-PF ₅	3350	800	800
$Mn/PC-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3347	1200	1200

TABLE VI

SYSTEMS CAUSING CURRENT OVERLOAD ** OF INSTRUMENTATION

System	CV	Max. Anod	Max. Cath. C.D.
		ma/cm ²	ma/cm ²
V/DMF-LiCl	3309	ov	nil

** ov-maximum current greater than 4.8 amp/cm²

DMF - Dimethylformamide

TABLE VII

PEAK CURRENT DENSITY RANGE CHLORIDE AND PERCHLORATE ELECTROLYTES

System	CV	Anodic	Cathodic
Cd/DMF-CaCl ₂	2963	high	high
Cd/PC-LiClO ₄ + AlCl ₃	3236	medium high	medium high
In/DMF-AlCl ₃ + LiCl	3392	high	medium high
In/PC-LiClO ₄	3246	medium low	low
In/PC-MgCl	2971	high	high
In/PC-AlCl ₃ + LiCl	3382	medium high	medium low
Fe/PC-AlCl ₃ + LiCl	3371	medium low	low
Mn/DMF-LiCl	3315	low	low

DMF - Dimethylformamide

TABLE VIII

PEAK CURRENT DENSITY RANGE FLUORIDE ELECTROLYTES

System	CV	Anodic	Cathodic
$Z_n/DMF-Ca(PF_6)_2$	3077	high	high
Zn/DMF-LiBF ₄	3272	high	medium high
$Z_n/DMF-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3323	very high	very high
$Z_n/PC-Mg(PF_6)_2$	3134	medium high	medium high
Zn/PC-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3152	medium low	medium high
Zn/PC-LiBF ₄	3173	medium low	medium low
$Zn/PC-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3209	medium low	medium low
Cd/DMF-PF ₅	2990	very high	medium low
Cd/DMF-LiBF ₄	3273	very high	very high
Mo/DMF-LiPF ₆	3031	low	low
Mo/PC-LiPF ₆	3051	medium high	low
In/DMF-LiBF ₄	3282	very high	medium low
In/PC-LiPF ₆	3056	high	medium high
In/PC-LiBF ₄	3179	high	medium high
$Fe/DMF-Mg(PF_6)_2$	3041	very high	high
Fe/DMF-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	3094	medium high	high
Fe/DMF-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3082	high	high
Fe/DMF-Ca(BF ₄) ₂	3358	very high	medium high
Fe/PC-LiPF ₆	3061	medium low	medium low
Fe/PC-LiBF ₄	3189	medium low	medium low
Fe/PC-Mg(BF ₄) ₂	3166	high	high
V/DMF-LiPF ₆	3046	medium low	low
$V/DMF-Mg(PF_6)_2$	3099	medium low	low

DMF - Dimethylformamide

TABLE VIII (Cont'd.)

System	CV	Anodic	Cathodic
V/DMF-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3087	medium low	low
Mn/DMF-LiPF ₆	3072	high	medium high
Mn/DMF-LiPF ₆	3303	high	high
Mn/DMF-KPF ₆	3439	high	high
Mn/DMF-LiBF ₄	3290	very high	medium high

TABLE IX

SWEEP INDEX *

System	CV	$\frac{\text{Anodic}}{\text{ohm}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-2}}$	$\frac{\text{Cathodic}}{\text{ohm}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-2}}$
Zn/PC-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	3134	12.0	2. 9
Cd/DMF-LiBF ₄	3273	320.0	750.0
Fe/PC-LiPF ₆	3061	2.4	3. 2
Mn/DMF-LiPF	3072	-	14.1
Mn/DMF-KPF ₆	3439	29.5	37.0

TABLE X $\Delta V_{\ p}, \ \mbox{COULOMBIC RATIO, AND DISCHARGE CAPACITY}$

<u>System</u>	CV	<u>∆</u> V p *	Coul. ** Ratio	Disch. Capac. coul/cm ²
$Z_n/DMF-Ca(PF_6)_2$	3077	0.3	-	-
Zn/DMF-LiBF ₄	3272	0.41	-	-
Zn/PC-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	3134	1. 2	1.30	. 2. 11
$Z_n/PC-C_a(BF_4)_2$	3209	0.75	-	-
Cd/DMF-CaCl ₂	2963	-	-	0.31
Cd/DMF-LiBF ₄	3273	0.057	0.39	4.8
In/DMF-LiBF ₄	3282	0.56	-	-
In/PC-MgCl ₂	2971	-	0. 25	0.73
In/PC-LiPF ₆	3056	0.70	-	-
In/PC-LiBF ₄	3179	0.9	-	-
Fe/PC-LiPF	3061	0.52	0.86	0.48
Fe/PC-LiBF ₄	3189	1.4	-	-
Mn/DMF-LiPF	3072	1.0	0.27	1. 37
Mn/DMF-LiPF	3303	0.9	-	-
Mn/DMF-KPF	3439	0.7	0.37	1. 16
Mn/DMF-LiBF ₄	3290	0.7	-	-

^{*} Voltage separating anodic to cathodic peaks

 ${\bf DMF-Dimethyl formamide}$

^{**} Ratio of cathodic to anodic peak areas

TABLE XI

SYSTEMS EXHIBITING ANODIC PEAK ONLY*

System	CV	Peak Current Density Range
$Z_n/PC-LiClO_4 + AlCl_3$	3231	medium low
Mo/DMF-CaCl ₂	2968	very low
Mo/DMF-PF ₅	2996	low (a)
$Mo/PC-LiClO_4 + AlCl_3$	3241	medium high
In/DMF-LiPF ₆	30 36	very high (a)
In/PC-LiCl + LiClO ₄	3119	low
Fe/DMF-LiBF ₄	3284	medium high
$Fe/DMF-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3328	very high (b)
Fe/PC-LiClO ₄ + AlCl ₃	3251	low (a)
Fe/PC-MgCl ₂	2976	medium low (a)
Fe/PC-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	3141	low
Fe/PC-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3156	medium low (b)
$V/DMF-Mg(ClO_4)_2$	3444	high (a)
V/DMF-KPF ₆	3429	medium low
$V/DMF-Mg(BF_4)_2$	3333	very low
V/PC-LiClO ₄	3408	medium high
V/PC-LiClO ₄ + AlCl ₃	3256	high
V/PC-CaCl ₂	3202	very low

^{*} Maximum cathodic current density in very low range (<1 ma/cm²) unless otherwise noted.

- (a) Low range cathodic (<10 ma/cm²)
- (b) Medium low range cathodic (10-50 ma/cm²)

TABLE XI (Cont'd.)

System	CV	Peak Current Density Range
Cr/DMF-Mg(ClO ₄) ₂	3449	high
Cr/DMF-LiPF ₆	3308	medium low
Cr/PC-LiClO ₄	3413	low
Cr/PC-AlCl ₃ + LiCl	3377	medium high (a)
Mn/DMF-LiClO ₄	3322	high
Mn/DMF-AlCl ₃ + LiCl	3399	high
Mn/PC-AlCl ₃ + LiCl	3387	medium low
Mn/PC-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3346	low

^{*} Maximum cathodic current density in very low range (<1 ma/cm²) unless otherwise noted.

- (a) Low range cathodic (<10 ma/cm²)
- (b) Medium low range cathodic (10-50 ma/cm²)

TABLE XII

SYSTEMS EXHIBITING CATHODIC PEAK ONLY

		Peak Current Density
System	CV	Range
$Fe/PC-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3221	medium low (a)

(a) Maximum anodic current density in medium high range (50-100 ma/cm²)

TABLE XIII

SYSTEMS EXHIBITING NO PEAKS *

System	CV
Zn/PC-LiCl + LiClO ₄	3104 (d)
Zn/PC-PF ₅	3001 (c)
Cd/PC-LiCl + LiClO ₄	3109 (d)
Cd/PC-PF ₅	3006 (b)
Mo/DMF-LiBF ₄	3278 (b)
Mo/PC-LiCl + LiClO ₄	3114 (d)
Mo/PC-PF ₅	3011 (c)
Mo/PC-LiBF ₄	3184 (b)
$Mo/PC-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3215 (c)
In/DMF-PF ₅	2983 (a)
In/PC-PF ₅	3016 (c)
Fe/PC-LiCl + LiClO ₄	3124
Fe/PC-CaCl ₂	3199
Fe/PC-PF ₅	3021 (d)
V/DMF-LiBF ₄	3294 (d)
$V/DMF-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3359 (d)
V/DMF-BF ₃	3257

- * Maximum current density in very low range (<1 ma/cm²) unless otherwise noted.
- (a) High range (100-300 ma/cm²)
- (b) Medium high range (50-100 ma/cm²)
- (c) Medium low range (10-50 ma/cm²)
- (d) Low range $(1-10 \text{ ma/cm}^2)$

DMF - Dimethylformamide

TABLE XIII (Cont'd.)

System	CV
V/PC-LiCl + LiClO ₄	3129
V/PC-LiPF ₆	3066
V/PC-KPF ₆	3402 (d)
V/PC-Mg(PF ₆) ₂	3147
V/PC-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3161
V/PC-PF ₅	3026
V/PC-LiBF ₄	3194
V/PC-Mg(BF ₄) ₂	3171
$V/PC-Ca(BF_4)_2$	3226
Cr/DMF-KPF ₆	3434 (d)
Cr/PC-KPF ₆	3419 (d)
Cr/PC-Ca(PF ₆) ₂	3341
$Mn/DMF-Mg(ClO_4)_2$	3454
Mn/PC-KPF ₆	3424 (a)

- * Maximum current density in very low range (1 ma/cm²) unless otherwise noted.
- (a) High range (100-300 ma/cm²)
- (b) Medium high range (50-100 ma/cm²)
- (c) Medium low range (10-50 ma/cm²)
- (d) Low range (1-10 ma/cm²)
- DMF Dimethylformamide
- PC Propylene carbonate

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